



# One by One

*Sarah Cain*

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Philadelphia journalist Danny Ryan is finally getting his life together. Two and a half years after losing his family, he's moved to a new house, started working again, and even began getting close to fellow reporter Alex Burton. Then an old high school acquaintance, Greg Moss, shows up asking for help. He's been getting threatening text messages, and he's not the only one. Other members of Danny's high school class have gotten the same messages, and now they're dead. And then Greg becomes the next victim.

Between shady political connections and crooked land deals in his real estate business, Greg had plenty to hide, but it might have been an incident from his youth that led to his death. Now Danny finds himself drawn down the dark corridors of his own life as he tries to put together the lost memories from one fateful high school party all those years ago.

But when Danny receives a text of his own, it's a race to find the truth before the killer, much like his own past, can catch up to him in *One by One*, the electrifying follow-up to Sarah Cain's *The 8th Circle*.

## One by One Details

Date : Published March 14th 2017 by Crooked Lane Books

ISBN : 9781683310877

Author : Sarah Cain

Format : Hardcover 336 pages

Genre : Mystery, Thriller, Mystery Thriller, Fiction

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## **From Reader Review One by One for online ebook**

### **Jennifer Collins says**

The first Danny Ryan mystery by Sarah Cain had me hooked nearly from page one--the plot was intricate, the writing strong, and the characters believable. I was excited to jump into this second book in the series, too, but I have to admit that it just didn't have the same punch as the first one. The plot felt overly intricate--maybe partly because there were a few too many characters that seemed to require depth, but weren't given much beyond backstory and what you'd expect in the present--and although it pulled together by the end, it just didn't have the same feel of inertia or import that the plot of the first book held. And as for the characters... well, Danny Ryan was the same, but I was left wanting more. Too often, it felt like he was primarily reacting instead of acting, as if the plot and chance were pulling the strings more than anything.

So, did I enjoy it? It was a nice escape, and I'm glad I read it. Will I read the next Danny Ryan book? I honestly have no idea. I wanted more character here, and a bit more depth, so whether or not I read the third may just depend on whether I happen across it, much as I hate to say it. It's not going to be something I wait on the edge of my seat for, I'm afraid.

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### **Linda Munro says**

One by one his old high school classmates are dieing. By how is it that journalist Danny Ryan never knew anything about the deaths? Not all of these murders/deaths had occurred while Danny was inconsolable over the loss of his family. Instead, Danny learns when an old classmate approaches him for help. Like the others, Greg is receiving strange texts with Biblical quotes. The classmates that had been murdered had each received similar tests before their murders.

Danny learns more than he bargained for, and so does his new colleague, fellow reporter Alex Burton. Tense situations, violence and what can happen when someone is bullied in their youth.

A must read, especially for bullies and the children they rear. BUT....reader beware, sometimes even the nice guys can get dragged through hell!

This is the second book in the Danny Ryan series and with its 5+ star rating, I need to read the first book!

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### **Mary Jensen says**

The basic plot is like an old Agatha Christie, with a number of people together on a fateful night. Who dunnit? Clearly, the one who was supposed to have been burned to an unrecognizable crisp (but it was really her mother who was burned). You really don't need to finish the book....

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## **Marla Bradeen says**

ONE BY ONE is an interesting mystery. I had some trouble getting into this story, perhaps because I haven't read the first book in the series. While I liked the hero well enough, I found several of the secondary characters to be more compelling with their goals and struggles. The mystery unfolds nicely, although, like the characters, I enjoyed some of the secondary storylines more than the main one. Overall, this was an interesting read with an action-packed second half.

Disclosure: I won a free copy of this book in a Goodreads giveaway.

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## **Woody says**

Clever plot, engaging characters & some very hair-raising, nail-biting, edge-of-your-seat moments. I'm definitely going to find the 1st book in the series & I can't wait for more.

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## **Tam says**

Okay, so after The 8th Circle, I was expecting BIG things from Cain in this next Danny Ryan novel. And, boy, did she ever deliver! ALL of the characters have such vivacity and depth. They are flawed and dysfunctional, but real and raw and very identifiable.

Danny is still struggling with his "new reality". But, once he learns that some of his old, high school friends have been murdered, his "journalist sense" kicks in, and he's determined to ferret out the truth and make sure justice is served and his friends are avenged. What follows is a story that is smart, clever and engaging, balanced with just the right amounts of danger, suspense and intrigue.

Once again, Cain has thoroughly entertained and impressed me, and I can't wait to see what comes next in the world of Danny Ryan!

\*I received a complimentary ARC copy of this book from NetGalley & Crooked Lane Books in order to read and provide an honest, unbiased and voluntary review, should I choose to do so.

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## **Annie says**

The plot... sheesh, so bad. For some reason I do like the Danny character and his family saga so, guess I'll keep reading but hey, get some help with the plots

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## **Ilyssa Wesche says**

I was so pleasantly surprised by this! I'm pretty picky about my mysteries, and this one had the right amount of intrigue, character development, clues, backstory, and straight up suspense. Usually land

development/government plots are not my thing but I didn't mind here. Maybe because it wasn't the only plotline. The characters were believable, sympathetic yet not perfect - I'm definitely going to check out the first book in the series.

Wholeheartedly recommend for a winter read!

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### **Beth Desjardins says**

Absolutely loved this book! And I have developed a crush on Danny Ryan. Can't wait for book #3!!!

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### **Julie Duffy says**

Danny Ryan is back. After solving the darkly twisted thrills in the 8th Circle, Danny is trying to put his life back together, but his past keeps coming calling.

There is a hint of romance and a huge serving of dark thrills, with some favorite characters returning and some fabulous new characters complicating life for Danny.

Thrilling, fast-paced, deeply rooted in Philly politics and local culture. Love these books!

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### **Kathy says**

4.5 stars.

In this second outing in **Sarah Cain's** *Danny Ryan Thriller* series, *One by One*, journalist Danny Ryan is once again embroiled in a complex murder investigation.

The novel opens with old high school acquaintance, Greg Moss, asking Danny to look into some ominous text messages he has been receiving. The request is immediately complicated by Greg's revelation that several of his old high buddies also received threatening texts before they were murdered. When Greg is then murdered, Danny's suspicions are raised by the lead detective on the case, Ted Eliot, and Danny, along with fellow journalist, Alex Burton, decide to do a little digging around. They quickly uncover Greg's ties with a development firm, Cromoca Partners, which is linked to Danny's ex-father-in-law Senator Robert Harlan and Congressman George Crossman. However, after Danny begins receiving mysterious texts, he cannot help but wonder if the murders in the present are somehow connected to the parties that Greg hosted back in high school. With assistance from both Alex and his detective brother Kevin, Danny tries to fit the pieces of the puzzle together before he becomes the killer's next victim.

There have been a few changes in Danny's life since readers met him in *The 8th Circle*. He is now a freelance journalist and he has moved into a new house. Since he is now living in the same neighborhood as ex-coworker Alex, he has become close to her and her husband, Sam. His relationship with Kevin is still a work in progress, but they are closer than they were in the past. Danny is still struggling with the loss of his wife and son but he is not as depressed as he has been.

Danny begins his investigation working off the idea that Greg's murder, along with the earlier deaths of his football buddies, are somehow linked to the past. When an attempt is made on the life of one of the people he interviews who knew Greg in high school and is still in touch with him in the present, Danny remains unsure what a possible motive for the murders. When another person from high school he interviews meets an untimely death, Danny knows he is on the right track but when his former classmates are less than forthcoming with him, his investigation hits a dead end.

Although he is not assigned to the case, Kevin does a little off the books digging around into Ted Eliot's background. While his relationship with Danny might be a little strained, he does take his brother seriously when he notices a few inconsistencies with the detective. Uncovering some rather interesting information about Ted, Kevin is still struggling to figure out if there is more to his story than he is telling.

Alex learns some troubling information about the Cromoca Partners latest business ventures but she is stonewalled when she tries to dig a little deeper. She is also a little curious about the long ago death of another classmate of Danny's and at first, her request for an interview is turned down. Alex is excited when the person reconsiders but is she making a mistake not talking to Danny before she sets out for the meeting?

*One by One* is another pulse-pounding installment in the *Danny Ryan Thriller* series. The investigation is compelling and **Sarah Cain** brings it to a close with an adrenaline-filled, action packed denouement. The novel ends on a very intriguing note and readers will be anxious to see what Danny decides to do with the curious information he has received. A riveting mystery that fans of the genre do not want to miss!

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